TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 1999

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779 SECRETARY: Nancy Marsden KD4ITX 268-3990
V. PRESIDENT: Ozzie Osband N4SCY TREASURER: Becky Lee KF4HTB 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC MEETINGS :	**Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building.**
TARC NETS:	**VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910**
	FRIENDSHIP - Thursdays at 1830 hrs. on146.910
	MOSQUITO - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC REPEATERS:	**VHF - 146.910 and146.970. UHF 444.150**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

Now that December is over, I am sure you will agree that it was one of the most active months of the year. This year's club Christmas party had a very good attendance and according to all comments was enjoyed by everyone. I am sure the American Medical Association will be getting in touch with Pike, W4EPU to enhance their knowledge of the anatomy of his pig. Pike, thanks for sharing with us all the fun and laughter and of course, pass on our thanks to your patient pig - or was it your pig who was your patient. The food was excellent and Pumpernickel's catering was outstanding. Thanks to the ladies for the tasty desserts they prepared and to those who helped set up and decorate the Jaycee building for the occasion. To Clara, KF4YQL, you are special. Many thanks for another job well done. It is wonderful to have members like you on our team.

For those who were unable to attend, the HAM OF THE YEAR AWARD went to Dr. Ralph Hall, AE4LE. Congratulations, Ralph, and thanks for your leadership and for being the team leader you are.

The Kennedy Point Yacht Club, as in years gone by, hosted the Christmas Boat Parade of Lights. Again this year TARC was asked to judge and name the winner of each of the three categories being judged. The boats that participated were beautifully decorated. The parade commenced at Kennedy Point Yacht Club and proceeded North. As each boat passed under the Max Brewer Memorial Pkwy. Bridge, TARC judges were on the fishing pier and by marine radio the name of that boat was identified and votes cast for that entry. Susan, KF4ZOK was asked to chair this event and as you would expect, the Chief Judge did a wonderful job. Thanks, Susan.

(See page 2)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

JAN. 1 KF4OXV PEGGY MILLER
JAN. 3 KE4AGO BILL REALY
JAN. 6 KB0OQJ KENNETH HITCHCOCK
JAN. 8 N4KHU DAVE ROBERTS
JAN. 8 N4AWX BRIAN VAN ALSTINE
JAN. 10 AA1HB CHARLIE CHENEY
JAN. 11 KE4RFJ DEBBIE BUTTON
JAN. 12 K4WSE JOHN WOOD
JAN. 13 KE4TTZ SANDY THORN
JAN. 14 KU4LJ KENNETH NADELL
JAN. 17 KO4NQ FRENCHY POULIN
JAN. 20 KE4TQZ SANDRA GREENWALD
JAN. 21 KT4SY EDDIE GASS
JAN. 21 KE4MXF KAY JORDAN
JAN. 23 KC4VIN CAROL RAMOS
JAN. 23 KD4GPF JOE MYERS
JAN. 26 K4SJC LES GRINER
JAN. 28 N1WBU ART DeANGELIS
JAN. 28 00000 DONALD PATTEN
JAN. 28 WA4JWU ROGER VERBLE
JAN. 29 000000 ANTHONY SINI

PRESIDENT - from page 1

In the next few days Les, K4SJC and his team of Archie, WN3DHI; Don, KE4LNS and others will be calling together a work team to install the new hard line for the 146.91/444.15 repeaters. The two repeaters are soon to be housed in a new building at the repeater site. When the volunteer work group call is made, I hope you will be available to come out and offer your assistance. It will be fun.

The new repeater with call sign KB0OQJ is soon to be on the air. Many thanks to a bunch of our guys including Ken, KB0OQJ; Ken, KD4HNW; Nick, KF4SEK; Les, K4SJC and others. This repeater will serve the North end of Brevard county and into Volusia County.

Due to the resignation by Nancy, KD4ITX as club secretary, we will elect at the Jan. 26, 1999 meeting someone to be TARC secretary for the period January - December 1999. I sincerely appreciate the outstanding job performed by Nancy. The club will miss her. Our best wishes are extended to her.

The silent Key Club has laid claim to our friend and club member Robert Brink of 3660 Wood Duck Dr., Mims, FL. Bob held the Advanced Class W1KBI license. He was born 8/24/1919. We will miss Bob. Our condolences are extended to his wife Glory and family.

Hope to see you at the club meeting on January 26, 1999.

PROGRAM TOPIC
FOR THE JANUARY MEETING
WILL BE:
"PASSING MESSAGE TRAFFIC IN GOOD TIMES AND BAD"

OZZIE N4SCY

DRAKE ENDS FACTORY SERVICE FOR OLDER GEAR

From 12/98 Cyberskip

R. L. Drake Company has announced it no longer will provide factory service for most of its older Amateur Radio and marine equipment. The list

includes much - but not all - of the popular 4-Line equipment.

Veteran Drake Service Manager Bill Frost, WD8DFP, says it's getting harder to get parts for the older Drake units. "The big switches, you can't buy those things anymore," he said this week. "The big electrolytics are not available."

Frost, who's been with Drake for 32 years, said his department has "reached a point where we cannot service the older products in the manner to which our customers have become accustomed." Technicians familiar with the older, mostly tube-type gear also are in short supply these days. "Our technical expertise on the older equipment has gradually been diminished by the loss of long-time employees due to retirement," Frost said. He also said the cost of repairs can easily exceed the cost of the equipment.

The company has posted a list on its Web site at http://www.rldrake.com/tech/Outofservice.html of items that it no longer can service. The list includes The R-4 and R-4A receivers, the popular T-4X, XB and SC HF transmitters, and the TR-3 and TR-4 transceivers, as well as most of the power supplies for those units, the SSR-1 receive, and the TR22, 22C and TR-33C 2-meter transceivers. Items on the list and sent to Drake for repair will be returned to the sender unrepaired accompanied by a bill for shipping, handling, and applicable COD fees.

Frost said Drake is still servicing "to an extent" the R-4B and R-4C receivers as well as the TR-5 and TR-7 transceivers. The company also still will provide factory repair service for the L-4, L-4B and L-7 linear amplifiers.

Drake says its supply of unique parts is limited, but it still might be able to supply individual owners with needed parts for do-it-yourself repairs. Frost encouraged Drake owners to call or write if they have any questions about repair or service of a particular piece of equipment - even if it's already on the list.Call Frost at 513-746-4556 or e-mail him at Bill_Frost@rldrake.com. Frost's mailing address is Bill Frost, R. L. Drake Co., Service Dept., 230 Industrial Dr., Franklin, OH 45005.

BULLETIN
ROVING WIRETAPS

From 11/98 Cyberskip

In a closed-door manuever, controversial "roving wire-tap" provisions were added to a major Intelligence authorization bill and passed by the House.

Current wiretapping law allows tapping of a particular person's phones. The provisions would dramatically expand current authority by allowing taps on any phone used by, or "proximate" to, the person being tapped - no matter whose phone it is. Such a broad law invites abuse.

In the last Congress, the full House of Representatives rejected these provisions after an open and vigorous debate. This week, behind closed doors, a conference committee added the provisions to the important Intelligence Authorization Conference Report (HR3496), almost certain to pass the Congress.

Isn't it interesting that such an expansion of federal authority should take place without a public debate?

MOVE OVER MICROWAVE
FLASHBAKE TECHNOLOGY
HAS ARRIVED

From 11/98 Cyberskip

Quadlux Inc., officials said that the oven is designed to cook food that has the taste and texture of a meal cooked in a conventional oven in about half of the time needed by traditional appliances. The product is not meant to compete head-to-head with Microwave machines, Quadlux said, as the

oven was designed to prepare previously uncooked meals, not reheat frozen dinners. The firm said that its FlashBake technology has been used in the commercial sector since 1993 but that the Wolf/FlashBake 120 will be the first countertop model that can plug into any standard 120-volt outlet. It will also be available in wall-mounted models, Quadlux said. The developer indicated that it is hoping the oven will appeal to professionals that prefer the taste of traditionally prepared meals but who do not have the time necessary to cook.

Quadlux spokesmen said the oven is preprogrammed to apply energy at different times during the cooking cycle to penetrate and cook from above and below, depending on the food or cooking mode chosen. According to the firm, the oven can bake, broil, steam, grill, roast and saute. Cooking with light also provides flexibility, to brown, caramelize and sear foods with no preheating required, Quadlux said.

The firm did not indicate which manufacturer builds the processors which powers its oven. Officials said the oven will be available this holiday season at appliance stores nationwide. The oven will also be available through the FlashBake Website, found at http://www.flashbake.com. Consumers can also call 800-THE-OVEN for more information.

The suggested retail price for the Wolf/FlashBake 120 is $1500 to $1700, Quadlux spokesmen said.

Quadlux isn't the only high-tech company currently working on the oven-of-the-future.

NCR Corp.'s London, England-based Knowledge Lab has developed an all-in-one, microwave-operated appliance for users who want to shop, cook and bank from their kitchen. The firm says its Microwave Bank, now in prototype, will become available in the next couple of years and will cost about the same as a normal, high-end microwave oven. The appliance is notwbeing tested in England where it used microwaves to send and receive signals by modem. It combines a common kitchen appliance with LCD (liquid crystal display) display that is touch and voice activated. The appliance door is the screen and features voice activated functions. NCR said that the appliance will also include features to help users order and inventory groceries, watch out for dietary concerns, and plan dieting.

NCR said that it is currently working on partnerships with various banking institutions in order to offer users of the appliance the ability to integrate their banking activities into the machine as well.

NCR has a site on the World Wide Web at http://www.ncr.com.

HAM RADIO TO THE RESCUE

From CORRESPONDENCE
12/98 QST

On the night of Friday, September 18, 1998, I was stranded on the Indiana Toll Road with my GMC minivan and 17-foot boat. I had just installed a remanufactured engine in the minivan and this was the "first 500 miles." But the "new" engine had died prematurely and left us on the shoulder of the Interstate. My wife looked at me and asked, "Now what do we do?"

"I have my H-T,: I replied. "Give me my *ARRL Repeater Directory* and let's see who we can contact for assistance."

After some fumbling to set the CTCSS tone, I checked into the 147.195-Mhz machine in Hammond, Indiana. My plea for help was answered immediately by Bob, N9TEW. He was on the way to the Peoria, Illinois hamfest at the time. Bob made two cellphone calls to the Indiana State Police to explain where I was and describe

my situation. A tow truck showed up within about 30 minutes.

All in all, I was out there for 2.5 hours, with huge trucks thundering by about two feet from the side of our boat/minivan. Throughout that entire time, the hams stayed in touch on the repeater. It was a heart-warming and reassuring display of assistance. After the tow truck rescued us and dropped us off at a hotel, Randy, KB9KXR, came by in his vbehicle to check out our welfare. Randy gave me a list of people to call for help, including himself. We were set for the rest of the night, armed with advice, names and numbers for the following day.

The next morning I called the service station that Bob had recommended. As Bob had predicted, they showed up promptly and towed the van to their station. When we asked whether we should get a rental car, the service station owner replied, "You won't need a rental car. We'll get you back on the road even if we have to remove and use parts from another van?" I knew then and there that everything was going to work out all right.

You northwestern Indiana hams are the best! You made our trip memorable to say the least. I am in your debt for all the advice and assistance you provided. This is Amateur Radio at its finest.
Van Linclol, WD8AAM, Prior Lake, Minnesota

LICENSE RESTRUCTURING COMMENTS

After reading the Board's proposed changes to the amateur licensing structure and the proposed changes from the FCC, I finally decided to join the League. I did so through the League Web site a couple of weeks ago. This evening, I received a copy of a letter from President Stafford regarding the Board's decision (forwarded through an e-mail list). I am writing to say that the letter confirms for me that joining the League was the right thing to do.

I'm a Technician licensee with only two years in the hobby. I don't know everything about Amateur Radio yet, but I know the points Mr. Stafford talked about are true: among other things, that commercial interests covet our spectrum, and that we need to regain our place in the forefront of technology.

I do not want something for nothing. I am all for earning what I get, and I want to learn more along the way. But sometime soon we have to be prepared to go forward into the next century in big steps. We must go beyond HF and FM. We need to explore digital communication, trunking and spread spectrum. We have to re-examine "what we do, how we do it and why we do it" in every aspect of the hobby, from testing to modes to spectrum allocation. And we have to retake the lead in communications technology or risk losing some or all of our bands. For years hams were the pioneers of radio. Now it's Voicestream, Sprint and Motorola. If we don't get back to the front of the pack, we risk ending up as museum displays.

It seems to me that the League wants to help get us back where we belong as pioneers in communications. That's why I joined. Thank you, Mr. Stafford and the ARRL Board for your commitment to ham radio in the next century.
Gerry Santomassimo, KB0VOF, Denver, Colorado

ANOTHER VIEW

As a ham with almost 52 years in the hobby I see little reason to so radically change the present licensing setup. I do favor three-tier licensing to replace the current multi-level mess, but I am very much against any change in code requirements. The one thing that will help prevent our bands from becoming an unwelcome high-powered extension of CB is to keep the code requirement as it is. *Ray Jenkins, W3MOA, Delmont, PA*

AND ANOTHER

I am not in favor of the proposed ARRL restructuring of amateur licenses. The proposed changes will not improve Amateur Radio, only hurt it. I do agree that some changes have to be made, but this is not the answer. I would like to see Novice CW privileges expanded to match the General license, and Novice and Technician Plus HF voice bands expanded to include the following:

10 Meters 29.5 - 29.7
12 Meters 24.930 - 24.990
15 Meters 21.400 to 21.450

I could accept a reduction in the code test to 10 WPM for General and Advanced and 18 WPM for Amateur Extra if one minute of solid copy is required. (No multiple-choice questions!) Also tighten the requirements for medical waivers.
John Tudenham, W0JRP, Joplin Missouri

DIGITAL AM

The development of digital short-wave AM broadcasting was described in the July 1998 issue of DW Plus, the monthly publication of Deutsche Welle (DW), the German international broadcast service. The article states that digital AM will greatly improve received audio quality and reduce susceptibility to interference. Several equipment manufacturers, research organizations and media companies recently formed a consortium known as Digital Radio Mondial (DRM) to develop and promote digital AM (DRM maintains a Web site at http://www.rnw.nl/DRM/index.html - Ed.) It expects to present recommendations for a digital broadcasting system at WRC-99. Digital AM could coexist with analog AM for a while, but the author of the article, Peter Senger, chief engineer for DW and chairman of the DRM Steering Committee, expects digital AM to replace analog in 15 to 20 years.

I suggest that the ARRL investigate and report on at least two aspects of digital AM that are of importance to radio amateurs; competition for HF spectrum and possible use of digital AM by hams.

With the advent of international broadcasting by FM from satellites, and even on the Internet, I looked forward to the day when international broadcasters would abandon the HF bands. But if digital AM is successful, hams will suddenly find their HF allocations threatened.
Omar P. Schreiber, W2UH, Chatham, NJ

NEWS RELEASE FROM (FAR) THE FOUNDATIONFOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC.

FAR, a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, DC, plans to administer sixty-six (66) scholarships for the academic year 1999-2000 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds ten of these scholarships with the income from grants and its annual Hamfest. The remaining fifty-six (56) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from $500 to $2500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in Delaware, Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their world wide web home pages.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 1999 from: FAR Scholarships, P. O. Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20738.

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those specific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike Abell W4EPU

Why we and our guests ate Christmas dinner at Shoney's this year.

This year, as is the case almost every year it is like a tradition that we cook a turkey on the old Brinkmann smoker. Heretofore, in order to reduce the cooking time, we did not stuff the turkey before cooking. Rather, we prepared the cornbread dressing and cooked it separately. This year we found a recipe for turkey stuffing that we simply had to try. We prepared and stuffed the turkey the night before Christmas. I got up Christmas morning at 5:00 AM, built a charcoal fire in the smoker, tossed on a couple of sticks of hickory and filled the drip pan with beer. At 6:00 sharp I placed the stuffed turkey in the smoker and went back to bed.

We got up around 8:30 and checked the turkey and everything was fine. It was already looking and smelling like a smoked turkey should. We had breakfast, exchanged and opened our gifts, acted surprised and thrilled, read the morning paper and tidied up the house.

Around 11:00 AM, just before the guests arrived, there was a loud explosion followed by rumbling and crackling noises. We ran to the back patio. The lid to the smoker was nowhere to be seen. It was later found on top of the house. The lid was OK except for one small dent at the point where it struck the roof. The temperature gauge was missing. We never did find it. The bottom half, the back of the turkey, with legs, thighs and wings attached, was still on the grill but lying very flat. The breast was out in the middle of the yard.

Before we got around to picking it up, a hawk suddenly swooped down and scooped it up. As the hawk was flying away with it, the breast was apparently too heavy or too hot to handle. He dropped it and flew off into the wild blue yonder. The breast landed on top of the house across the street. (We are still not sure whether or not that is what caused my neighbor's roof leak.)

Bits and pieces were scattered all over the patio, on the side of the house, in the grass, on the fence, and even on the leaves and fruit of a nearby orange tree. Fortunately, it happened outside rather than in the kitchen stove.

In an effort to determine why the disaster occurred we reread the recipe. We had followed the instructions to the letter. There is one thing however, the recipe did not address. But we decided this on our own. If we ever again cook a turkey stuffed with popcorn, we will pop the corn first. 73s es 88s

TREASURERS REPORT

By Becky Lee KF4HTB

Balance Forward From 1997	$5356.73
Deposits Year to Date	7556.97
TOTAL INCOME	**12913.70**
Expenditures	6306.13
BALANCE AS AT 12/31/98	**6607.57**
FEMA Escrow	1449.32
BALANCE-CLUB FUNDS	**$5158.05**

If you think you are beaten, you are.
If you think you dare not, you don't
If you like to win but think you can't,
It's almost certain that you won't.
Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger woman or man,
But sooner or later, those who win
Are those who think they can

UCF SWAPFEST
JANUARY 9 AT UCF CAMPUS
FREE ADMISSION
TEST SESSION TO BE HELD

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 251 (180 regular, 60 family, 11 honorary)

NEW MEMBERS: KF4UDM BRIAN HUNTER

RENEWALS:
KF4BKY JOE HUSSON
K4BZJ LES WIDICK
KF4IGB PAT WIDICK
KU4LA JOE TIPTON
AB4P BILL MALLMAN
KC4SYD CLIFF HOAG
KS4YH KEITH TOWERS
KB2ZLH JUDY SMITH

HAMFESTS:

JAN.9/10	FT. MEYERS
JAN.16	CRYSTAL RIVER
JAN.16	W. PALM/LANTANA
JAN.30	ARCADIA
FEB. 6	PENSACOLA
FEB.6/7	MIAMI
FEB.13/14	ORLANDO
FEB 20/21	SARASOTA
FEB 20	BROOKSVILLE
MAR 13	ENGLEWOOD